What Is Claimed Is:

1.   A communication system comprising:

a network; and

5   at least two terminal units connected thereto,

wherein each terminal unit comprises:

session controlling means for controlling a session for enabling

transmission/receiving of voice, image, and handwritten data to/from the remote

terminal unit individually, and

10   display means for displaying said image and said handwritten data,

wherein said image data and said handwritten data are overlapped and

displayed on a display of said display means.

2.   The communication system according to claim 1, wherein

15   transmission/receiving of voice data is capable while said image data and/or

handwritten data are displayed.

3.   The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the terminal

unit further comprises:

20   an image/handwritten data managing means for managing image/handwritten

data,

wherein the image/handwritten data managing means has a plurality of planes,

and

wherein the managing means displays basic image data on one of the plurality

of planes, and displays handwritten data currently handled in communication on a

different plane, so that image and handwritten data are displayed so as to overlap

each other by putting the different planes in layers.

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    4.   The communication system according to claim 3, wherein in the terminal

unit the image/handwritten data managing means, when having transmitted/received

image data, adjusts sizes of the image data plane and the handwritten data plane to

the size of the transmitted/received image data.

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    5.   The communication system according to claim 3, wherein the terminal

unit further comprises:

    erasing/information transmitting means for erasing image and handwritten data

from the display means through the image/handwritten data managing means and

15   transmitting erasure information to the remote terminal unit.

    6.   The communication system according to claim 3, wherein the terminal unit

further comprises:

    an erasing/information receiving means for erasing image and handwritten data

20   from the display means through the image/handwritten data managing means

according to the erasure information from the remote terminal unit.

7. The communication system according to claim 5, wherein in the terminal unit the erasing/information transmitting means can select either image or handwritten data or both of image and handwritten data as an object to be erased and erase a selected object from the display means.

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8. The communication system according to claim 6, wherein in the terminal unit the erasing/information transmitting means notifies the remote terminal unit of completion of the object erasure so that the remote terminal erases the object from its display means according to the notice.

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9. The communication system according to claim 7, wherein in the terminal unit the erasing/information transmitting means notifies the remote terminal unit of completion of the object erasure so that the remote terminal erases the object from its display means according to the notice.

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10. The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the terminal further comprises:

storing means for storing data to be processed by the self terminal unit,

wherein the storing means can select either image or handwritten data or both

20 of image and handwritten data as an object to be stored and stores the selected

object in a storage means.

11.   The communication system according to claim 1, wherein in the terminal said

session controlling means, when starting and ending image and/or handwritten data

communication, can transmit/receive image and/or handwritten data from/to the

remote terminal unit registered beforehand without requiring the permission of the

5   receiving-side user.

12.   The communication system according to claim 11, wherein in the

terminal the session controlling means, when starting and ending a voice session,

receives voice data from the remote terminal unit registered beforehand without

10   requiring permission of the receiving-side user.

13.   The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the terminal

further comprises:

an image data transmission controlling means for controlling transmission of

15   image data; and

an image data receiving controlling means for controlling receiving of image

data,

wherein each of the image data transmission controlling means and the image

data receiving controlling means selects a name or contents of the basic image data

20   to transmit/receive the selected one to/from the remote terminal unit.

14.   The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the terminal

further comprises:

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a handwritten data inputting means for obtaining handwritten data inputted by a

user,

wherein the handwritten data inputting means, when one of two terminal units

transmits/receives handwritten data to/from the other, effects exclusive control so that

5   one terminal unit is allowed to input/transmit handwritten data in contrast the other

terminal unit is not allowed.

15.   The communication system according to claim 14, wherein in the

terminal said the handwritten data inputting means effects exclusive control with the

10   start of hand-writing as a trigger.

16.   The communication system according to claim 1, wherein in the terminal

The terminal unit further comprises:

a handwritten data controlling means for controlling transmission/receiving of

15   handwritten data,

wherein said handwritten data controlling means collects a sampled

handwritten data in a chunk at the predetermined number of sampling times to

transmit/receive the chunk of sampled handwritten data.

20   17.   The communication system according to claim 16, wherein in the

terminal the handwritten data controlling means denotes whether or not a notice is

received at each chunk of data alternately between the two subject terminal units.

18.   The communication system according to claim 16, wherein in the terminal the handwritten data controlling means permits of editing of handwritten data on the handwritten data plane while prohibited editing of image data on the image data plane.

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19.   The communication system according to claim 3, wherein the terminal further comprises:

a display controlling means for displaying image and handwritten data on the display means according to instructions received from the image/handwritten data managing means,

wherein the display controlling means prepares the coordinate systems for both the basic image data and handwritten data, enables a position pointed by handwritten data to be exchanged between two terminal units.

15   20.   The communication system according to claim 19, wherein in the terminal the display controlling means enable to scroll both of the image data and the handwritten data to display both of the data on the display means of the remote terminal unit if the position pointed by the handwritten data might not be displayed on the display means of the one terminal unit.

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21.   A communication system comprising:

a network; and

at least two terminal units connected thereto,

wherein each terminal unit comprises:

setting data inputting means for setting a self operation of the terminal and specifying a remote terminal unit with which the terminal unit is to communicate,

communication control/input/output means for enabling data to be interchanged

5 between terminal units through the network,

voice inputting means for inputting an external voice to the self terminal unit,

voice outputting means for outputting voice data from the terminal unit to external,

input processing means for processing information inputted from a user through

10 the setting data inputting means,

session controlling means for controlling a session for enabling transmission/receiving of a voice to/from the remote terminal unit through the communication control/input/output means,

voice transmitting means for encoding voice data inputted through the voice

15 inputting means as packet data to transmit the encoded data to the remote terminal unit through the communication control/input/output means,

voice receiving means for obtaining encoded voice data from a voice data packet received through the communication control/input/output means to decode and output the decoded voice data through the voice outputting means,

20 storage means for storing data to be processed by the self terminal unit,

display means for displaying data,

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a bus for the connection of the setting data inputting means, the communication control/input/output means, the voice inputting means, the voice outputting means, the storage means, and the display means,

handwritten data inputting means for obtaining handwritten data inputted by a

5   user,

handwritten data controlling means for controlling transmission/receiving of handwritten data,

image data transmission controlling means for controlling transmission of image data,

10   image data receiving controlling means for controlling receiving of image data,

image/handwritten data managing means for managing image/handwritten data, and

display controlling means for displaying image and handwritten data on the display means according to instructions received from the image/handwritten data

15   managing means,

wherein the session controlling means controls the session so that the self terminal unit can transmit/receive image and handwritten data to/from the remote terminal unit through the communication control/input/output means, thereby enabling voice communications while pointing to images with use of voices, images, and

20   handwritten data.